Spirited Vindication of the Cause of Reform and Progress.

Interview with the President of the Trades' Council.

REASONS FOR SCOTCH LOYALTY.

Good Feeling Towards America-The Geneva Arbitration Heartily Approved.

## THE PLATFORM OF THE CONSERVATIVES.

EDINBURGH, Pep. 10, 1874. The great wave of conservative reaction which at this moment is threatening to submerge the constituencies of England and Ireland has been powerless in Scotland. Since the passing of the eform act of 1832 Scotland has been stanchly Roeral, and has never been more heartily so or more thoroughly anti-conservative than it is today. Mr. Gladstone, as a political leader, is the idol of the country; but of the thirty candidates servative, and of these five four are of the mildest possible type. Edinburgh, the capital of the country, has returned two liberals, Mr. Duncan McLaren and Mr. Cowan, the Lord Provost of the city. Dundee, the great manufacturing centre of the east coast, has returned two liberals, one of whom is "Ginx's Baby" Jenkins, whose chief fault in the eyes of the workingmen there was that his address was not so enthustastically republican in sentiment as they would have wished. In Glasgow, the second city of the three kinggioms, Dr. Cameron, the proprietor and editor of the Daily Mail, a journalist of extreme opinions, heads the poll, while next after him stands Mr. Anderson (of Emma Mine celebrity). whose opinions are very much those entertained by Sir Charles Dilke. Glasgow is what is termed a three cornered" constituency. While it returns three members the individual electors are restricted to voting only for two. This device was in the interest of "minority representation," and renders it a difficult matter even for a constituency thoroughly liberal to return three liberal members At the present election the third membership has been won by the tories, thanks to a dissension in the liberal camp and to a defection from the liberal party of the whole Irish vote, which has been cast solid for a home rule candidate. The emergence of the Irish home rule question in Scotch politics has been a disturbing power of altogether unanticipated magnitude, and threatens to become hereafter of the most serious consequence in Scottish election contests. Of its present position as a party cry I shall have more to say towards the close of this letter.

THE DOMINANT POLITICAL MISUES. The Scotch have raised no question at this general election in the foreign policy of Mr. Gladstone's administration. The Alabama damages, the Ashantee war and the Straits of Malacca have not caused any heartburnings here. The first of these foreign complications is never mentioned except in terms of warm compliment as having been a step in the right direction and as a just re turn for a grievous wrong. It is on questions of domestic legislation that the Scotch have been busying themselves. Of these the most important are the "Game laws," which they wish abolished; the "county franchise," which they wish assimilated to that of the burghs or towns; the "law of gated and "shorter hours of labor in factories and public works for women and children," which they wish adopted in terms of a bill lately introduced into Parliament by Mr. Mundella, the member for Sheffield. Upon all these questions the liberal candidates have shown a complacent willingness to go almost as far as even most ardent constituents desire. Two great parties have sprung up, however, this election who owe their power to the Disraeli Reform bill of 1868, and who will exercise a powerful influence on the political desor trades' union party and the Irish home ruters. In the manufacturing towns the influence of the first has been paramount, and has manifested itself mainly in opposition to the recent British act of Parliament known as "The Criminal Law Amendment act" (June 29, 1871). The feeling in Scotland against this act of Parliament has been at fever heat among the working classes. They have neld open air demonstrations in various parts of the country, at which speeches have been delivered, vehemently denouncing the statute, while a political organization, almost perfect in its members invorable to the repeal of the statute. Recognizing the importance of this new working class movement in Scotland, I went to Glasgow,

INTERVIEW WITH THE MASTER MIND OF THE SCOT-Mr. Andrew Boa, the President of the Trades' Council and Chairman of the Committee for the Repeal of the Criminal Law Amendment act. One was not long in Glasgow before hearing of Andrew Boa. Intending candidates for the representation of that great city seemed more solicitous of conciliating him and the body he represented than any other class in the community. If he frowned on their pretensions they straightway committed political harl-kart. The favored candidates of his choice in Glasgow have headed the poll, having first pledged themselves to vote for the repeal of all that is obnoxious in the Criminal Law Amendment act. Mr. Bos I met by appointment in his home, a quiet Scottish "but and ben, on one of the dats of a new street in an outlying district of Glasgow, called Kinning Park. Ushering me into a little parior, remarkable for its neat appearance, and giving me a copy of "Thomson's Outlines of the Laws of Thought" to read, the Tribune of Western Scotland returned to another room to finish an interview he was having with the deputation of a co-operative society of which he is director. The parlor was quietly furnished A mahogany bookcase stocked with the English classics, recalled to one's mind the high intellectual acquirements one universally finds among the etter class of Scottish workingmen. On the mantelplece were stucco busts of Homer and Socrates, and two heads of Indian corn, souvenirs of the United States, which he afterwards told me were sent him by a valued friend now resident in that country.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE. Mr. Soa is not-as his name and extraordinary induence would seem to suggest-a flerce looking specimen of humanity. On the contrary, he is a mild, little fair-haired man of about thirty-three years of age, lithe and numble in his movements, with a bright, intelligent countenance, particularly gentle, a finely formed head, cheeks slightly pallid, an eye mellow and pleasing, and a rather handsome yellow mustache. He is a stone mason by trade. He is married, and his eldest child, a fine boy of five years, kept us company throughout the interview. Another child, of about two years of age, who kept running from room to room, Mr. Boa explained was a little orphan he had adopted, land. The surroundings of the Scottish Tribune's home spoke of domestic contentment and happiness-there was neither the sloveniness, nor the dirt, nor the discontent so characteristic of the English "Reds" of London and Cheisea. After some pleasant preliminary talk we proceeded somewhat as follows:—

omewhat as follows:—
Correspondent—The movements of your newly
nfranchised class, Mr. Boa, naturally possess
reat interest for all who are watching the politi-

cal progress of the people of Great Britain, and it is with the object of obtaining some information from the best possible quarter that I have sought this interview. I think at present the amendment of the criminal legislation relative to the working classes occupies much of your attention?

Mr. Boa.—In Sectiand at present we are mainly engaged in trying to remove from the statute book the odious penal measures directed against us as a class. Those 5fs particularly the Griminal Law Amendment at the first particularly the Griminal Law Amendment at the vaguest and most unsatisfactory of criminal laws—and the Master and Servant act of 1887, which, while its main object was to abolish the immeral and one-sided principle which made the contracts of workmen enforceable by imprisonment, really let that principle in sgain by a side wind.

Coursespondent—What is your objection to the

onment, really let that principle in again by a side wind.

Commission principle in again by a side wind.

Commission was a superior of the criminal Law Amendment act?

Mr. Boa—its vagueness and unfairness. By that act, and I use its very words, "Every-person shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding three months who shall (i) molest another person by persistently following him about from place to place, or (2) if he watch or beset the house or place where such person resides or works or carries on business, or happens to be, or if, with two or more other persons, he follow such person in a disorderly manner in or through any street or road." Now if you should go and tap a man on the shoulder and say to him, "I do not think you should walk out, Mr. so and so," you are liable to three months imprisonment. The act is so vague that it is impossible to say what harmiess deed may not be construed as "molestation." Besides, the common law should he sufficient to meet every case of really criminal molestation.

Correspondent—You object that this statute

criminal molestation.

CORRESCONDENT—You object that this statute virtually oreates a reign of terror over the workmen when they and their masters disagree?

men when they and their masters disagree?

Mr. Boa—Just so.

Correspondent—Now what are your complaints as to the Master and servant act?

Mr. Boa—We object to imprisonment for breach of civil contract as a fingrant exception to ordinary rules. To fail in paying £1,000 at date is a subject for a lawauit; to miss a day's work is matter for imprisonment. The Master and Servant act of 1867 provides civil remedies certainly for breaches of contract equally on both sides, and its promoters, I believe, honestly entertained the idea that they abolished a grievous anomaly; but, inasmuch as the act gives the Court in what it calls "aggravated cases" power to imprison the defaulting party for three months, it happens that the workman may for a breach of agreement, which some saplent magistrate considers "aggravated," be sent to just like a common felon.

Correspondent—But this imprisonment can only occur in very special circumstances?

nagistrate considers "aggravated," be sent to jail like a common felon.

Correspondents—But this imprisonment can only occur in very special circumstances?

Mr. Box—Yes; but "aggravated misconduct" is a flexible phrase, and leaves too much to the discretion of the magistrate. And, besides, there are every day aggravated cases of breach of contract in the civil courts, the authors of which are miveven always cast in damages. This pamphiet I hold in my hand is by Frederick Harrison, M. A., of Lincoln's lim. He says, "Two workmen left their employment in Kingston attracted by the high wages offered at the London Gas Works during the strike, and engaged themselves for the vacant places. Men, as we know, who had struck were being scatenoed every day to prison under the clause as to "aggravated misconduct." Yet those men who had come up from Kingston to take the places of the men on strike and do their work were sent to prison by the same rule, though since their conduct tended to diminish the evils caused by the strike, one would have looked as it leniently. We are told, again, that in the rural districts it is the rule for justices to treat the condition of "aggravated misconduct" as mere surplusage as, in legal significance, equivalent to leaving employment. Thus an fasex farmer, who gives names and addresses, including his own, writes publicly on the case of a man who was earning seven shilings a week for fourteen hours labor, and who left this valuable situation for work in another part of the country. On returning to his home, six months afterwards, he was sent to prison under this section. Another man, who asked for a rise of wages, was told by his employer if he did not like his wages to leave his place. He took his employer at his word, but he found to his cost that he had to appear at the Petty Sessions, and that his employers regarded this too scrupulous hieralism in carrying out orders as "aggravated misconduct." These are English cases, certainly, but we have had a similarly oppressive occurrences in you

returned him, and the cause which he goes to serve in the House of Commons will be immensely strengthened.

Correspondent—I believe that will be the general feeling inroughout the country.

Mr. Roa—I have had a further evidence of the power now wielded by our body. This atternoon I received a telegram from Colonel McDonald, the conservative candidate who is contesting the Montrose burghs, against the late Secretary of the Treasury. W. E. Baxter. The Colonel says to me:—'I go in for the repeal of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. Leud me a trades' unionist to belp me. Money no object." I was thunderstruck at this barefaced proposal, as if we could be bought and sold. I telegraphed a refusal, and I also telegraphed Mr. Baxter's election committee to make the proposal known, and to press workingmen not to forsake theralism nor be mialed by the specious promises of sham friends.

Correspondent—Representing, as you in a measure do, the great body of the intelligent working classes of Scotland, I should like to hear from you your opinions of political measures not of a strictly class enaracter. The game laws, for example.

Mr. BOA—I have we would summarily abolish. Correspondent—Does the present system of reputation.

CORRESPONDENT—Does the present system of representation satisfy you?

Mr. BOA—No. We would have equal electoral districts, and an electoral system on Mr. Harris' pian, if possible. We believe also in the payment

Mr. Boa—No. We would have equal electoral districts, and an electoral system on Mr. Harris' plan, if possible. We believe also in the payment of members of Parliament.

Correspondent—As to Church and State?

Mr. Boa—We are opposed to the continuance of the Church and State connection.

Correspondent—How do you feel as to the "Home Rule" movement?

Mr. Boa—That we have not yet given much attention to. Other questions have been pressing us more closely. But so far as Home Rule means the giving a greater charge of national or local concerns to purely national or the disintegration or dismemberment of the United Kingdom.

Correspondent—But how would you feel with regard to a lederation of the three kingdoms on the principle of the United States of America?

Mr. Boa—I do not suppose that would be very objectionable, but I have not considered it very anxiously. Besides, this question of "Home Rule," when started in Scotland, generally assumes a religious aspect, and we are told that "Home Rule means Rome rule." I do not say that it does, but we workmen, who are united to a man on all purely secular questions concerning trade and labor, get to sixes and sevens when the religious difficulty is imported into our discussions.

Correspondent—May I ask, Mr. Bos. what are your opinions with respect to republicanism?

labor, get to sixes and sevens when the religious difficulty is imported into our discussions.

Correspondent—May 1 ask, Mr, Bos, what are your opinions with respect to republicanism?

Mr. Boa—Well, I believe there is not any very great dissatisfaction in Scotland with the existing mode of government. We look on Queen Victoria as an exceptionally good monarch, and could we leel sure of a succession of "Victorias" there would not be any cry for republicanism.

Correspondent—You are aware of the republican movement in England?

Mr. Boa—I am. There it is identified with a religious difficulty, masmuch as its most prominent advocates, charles Bradlaugh and Holyoake and Watts, are secularists. In Scotland you will ind the religious element a strong characteristic of the people, and pervading the artisan class as well as the others, and it will be a stumbling block to the advance of a republicanism based on secularism.

Correspondent—You are a member of a Church CORRESPONDENT-You are a member of a Church

body, Mr. Boa? Mr. Boa—I am a Methodist. CORRESPONDENT—You must have had hard work to-day canvassing?
Mr. Box-1 have been canvassing very hard. I

Mr. Boa—I have been canvassing very hard. I have, however, myself no vote.

CORRESPONDENT—I am surprised at that. How is it that a man possessed of your intelligence and influence has no vote in the councils of the action?

Mr. Boa—Simply because I am in the county of Rentrew and not in the city of Glasgow, and the county franchise is a £14 rent a year, which is a higher rent than I pay. There are at least 12,000 workingmen around me in this neighborhood similarly direumstanced, and, taking the whole county, I should say there are nearly 80,000 workingmen who have no votes. I may say that were the county franchise assimilated to that of the burghs, toryism in Scotland, at least, would become actinct.

the county iranchise assimilated to that of the burghs, toryism in Scotland, at least, would become extinct.

Correspondent—is there any other grievance of which Scotland workmen complain?

Mr. Boa—Yes, we have serious cause of complaint in the exclusion of workmen from juries. This is an evil which presses severely upon us, and for the removal of winch our most anxious efforts are being made. I should like to tell you of one other scheme which is dear to our hearts, I mean the Workmen's Peace Association. The object of this organization is to promote international arbitration. We have already working committees at work in each of thirty Scotlish towns. I am secretary of the Scotlish department of the Workmen's Peace Association, and I can bear testimony to the keen feeling entertained on the question by the operative classes throughout the length and breadth of the country. Had it not been that this election has come sooner and more suddenly than was anticipated, we should have had international arbitration made a hustings question throughout the country.

Correspondent—Then I may assume that you regarded with satisfaction the Anglo-American Arbitration at Geneva?

Mr. Boa—Undoubtedly, and whatever others may unge to the contrary, the peaceful solution of the Alacama claims was anticiped by Scotland with feel-

Mr. Boa.—Undoubtedly, and whatever others may urge to the contrary, the peaceful solution of the alaoania claims was hatted by Scotland with feelings of the most unbounded joy.

After thanking Mr. Boa for the patience and

great courtesy with which he had conversed with me I hade him adieu and betook myseil by way of hearing the other side to the ranks of the conservatives. I accordingly waited on a leading tory who was very willing to give me his views, but had a positive dread of being "interviewed" by any New York journal whatever, so that I had solemnly to promise that neither his name nor anything pointing to his whereabouts should transpire.

He stated frankly to me that, in his opinion, Gladstone was driving the country at a breakneck pace to "the dogs." He thought the British constitution was practically—whatever it might be theoretically—about the best government in the world. He cojected to all tinkering and "constitution mongering" where such tinkering was indulged in merely by way of experiment and from an abstract love of political speculation. That was the sort of thing, he said, which had led to successive revolutions in France, and he preferred the good working constitution in the hand to the theoretically perfect one which was slawys in the bush or being offered to one on paper.

MR. Dishashl
had rightly stated at Glasgow that the spirit of the age was a spirit of equality, and he interpreted Mr. Disraeli as meaning the endeavor of those to pail down to their own lovel the classes who below are above them. It was now more popular for workingmen to try to pail down others to their lower lovel by means of each of Parliament than to raise themselves to the higher lovel by industry and sooils virtues. The ourse of the country was its exaggerated love for politics. He dreaded the growing power of the lower classes and their tendency to make their newly acquired strength work in the interests of their own class alone. A number of blatent demagogues and a self-seeking press were pandering to the victious action of the working classes. A lew good jectures on the virtues of sobriety and frugality would be of more value to the people than all the political schemes of all the reiormers of the hour. The decay of reverence fo

Europe.

HOME RULE AS A PARTY QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.
Only one candidate has stood in Scotland distinctly piedged to home rule, and that was one of the defeated candidates for Glasgow—the Hon.
Francis Ker—a Scotchman and a Catholic, and a lover of Ireland. But the "nome rulers" have made themselves felt all over the country, and oefore another election comes round their numbers are such that, with unanimity and good organization, they will hold probably several seats at their disposal. At present "home rule" is advocated only for Ireland and by Irishmen, and on the narrow issue of past Irish grievances, rather than on the broader ground of the political propriety of the step. Home rule, however, has a meaning for Scotland as well as for Ireland. The senior member for Edinburgh has been grumbling sadiy over the miserable modiscum of time which the English Parliament is able to devote to Scotlish interests, and Mr. Butt, the great home ruler declared the other day in Scotland that Mr. McLaren's complaint constituted the best home rule speeca he had yet heard. To-might I notice one of the debating societies at the University here discuss the question whether home rule is not a necessity for Scotland as well as for Ireland, and, indeed, the general tendency of advanced political speculation in this country seems towards the adoption of a federation of the three kingdoms, each with its own national parliament. The desire for a modified home rule in Scotland has at various times cropped up, but for some years it has gone to sieep. The Irish agitation, however, reawakens it, and seems likely to give it greater vitality than it has ever intherto possessed. So far as the strictly Irish movement in Scotland Is concerned there is not the least doubt that it must speedily assume the gigantic proportions which its inlends predict.

THE LEADER OF THE HOME STATES OF THE SCOTLAND IN THE HOME RULE AS A PARTY QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.

assume the gigantic proportions which its irienos predict.

THE LEADER OF THE HOME RULE PARTY In Scotland, John Ferguson, is a man of great skill, energy and eloquence. An Irishman himself, he is conspicuous for his labors in every patriotic movement for the benefit of his country. He is a Frotestant, and this fact greatly disarms the cuckoo cry that "Home Rule means Rome Rule," a cry which readily enough selzes hold of so intensely Protestant a people as the Scotch are. As a speaker, Ferguson has few equals in any country, and his speech to the home rulers in the City Hall of Glasgow, on the eve of the election, was one of the ablest election speeches ever heard in the west of Scotland. He possesses good social position, and is one of the partners of the well known publishing house of Cameron & Ferguson. He is also comparatively a young man, not over thirty-four or thirty-five years of age, and is very popular with all classes of his fellow citizens. Tail, well formed, though of stender build, of dark complexion, with a voice marvellously beautiful in its intonation, he possesses some of the best qualifications of the successful orator. As a tactionan he is not a whit behind the best electionering agents in the west of Scotland, and his bold determination to withdraw the whole Irish vote from the Glasgow liberal camp because of their professed inability to comprehend the meaning of the Irish home rule cry created the greatest consternation among the liberals and resulted ultimately in the loss of one of the three liberal seats for the City.

Mr. Ferguson, in a conversation with your cor-

the loss of one of the three interal season of the city.

Mr. Ferguson, in a conversation with your correspondent declared himself most sanguine of the future of the home rule movement in Scotland, stating that although as yet it was limited to the Irish residents in the country, their patriotism was of the most enthusiastic character and was even already telling on their more apathetic neighbors the Scotch, as an instance of which he mentioned that at a late home rule meeting in Edinburg four of the town counseliors of that city were on the platform and one of them occupied

were on the platform and one of them occupied the chair.

BEFUBLICANISM.

Only the other day a telegram appeared in the London papers that a vote of thanks to Sir Charles Dilke had been passed by the Dundee Republican Chib. I have considered it, therefore, germane to an inquiry into the political condition of Scotland to ascertain how far there was any genuine republican sentiment in the country. I visited Dundee, which is evidently in Scotland what Lyons and Marselles are in France, and I interviewed the President of the Dundee Republican Club. He is a working slater in Dundee—a quiet, inoffensive man of about forty years of age, much loved in his neighborhood for his kindly sympathy with the suffering and the poor. The club of which he is the head numbers nearly 400 members, mostly of the artizan class. They have a hall, and meet regularly once a week for the discussion of political questions. I found this arch plotter against the constitution of his country quietly seated at his own fireside, amid the happy surroundings of home and with a bright little naxen-naired girl on his knee, spelling out her alphacet from an illustrated picture book. Scotland is safe enough, I thought, so long 28 her reformers are such men as these; for "FROM SCENES LIEF THESE OLD SCOTIA'S GRANDEUR SPRINGS."

I had a long and interesting conversation with the President. He told me the club was nearly three years old, that its membership was increasing and its principles daily becoming better known. They went in for republicanism on principle, out at the present election wastever part they took in politics was not as republicans but as trades unionsts. No truly republican issues were yet before the country. From a printed manifesto of the club, which he gave me, I take the following:—

PLATFORM OF THE DUNDSE REPUBLICAN CLUS.

First—Adult suffrage.

Second—Equal Parliamentary representation.

Third—Shorter Parliaments.

Fourth—The abolition of the House of Lords and all creditary distinctions.

Forth—The abolition of the House of Lords and all hereditary distinctions.

Fifth—Fayment of Parliamentary representatives by the state and election expenses by the constituencies.

Sizth—All voting for national, county or municipal representatives to be by a pure and unrestricted ballot. Seventh—The disestablishment and disendowment of the State churches.

Eighth—The total abolition of the game laws and a thorough and equitable settlement of the land question.

Nidth—A system of free, compulsory and unsectarian education.

education.

Texth—The repeal of all acts that interfere with the natural rights and liberty of the citizen.

Elementh—The speedy repeal by Parsiament of the Act of Settlement.

Such, tellow citizens, are the principles for the advancement and triumph of which we ask the sid of every lover of truth and justice. Do you believe them true? Act, then, the manip part, and stand side by side with those who are working in the good cause. Organize in your thousands, and you will reap a glorious reward in witnessing the realization of the noblest aspirations of humanity.

People throughout the land,

ward in witnessing the realization of the modest tions of humanity.

People throughout the land,
Join in one social band
If you would happy be,
Free from all slavery,
Banish all knavery,
And save yourselves.

We are, in the name and by the authority of the Dundee Republican Club, &c.,
WILLIAM BUCHAN, Secretary,
THOMAS BENNETT, Treasurer.

IN GLASGOW.

WILLIAM BUTHAN. Secretary. THOMAS BENNETT, Treasurer. IN GLASGOW.

I made inquiry for the Republican Club of Glasgow, but was informed that that institution was not in so flourishing a condition as the one in Dundee. Similar inquiry for the Republican Club of Edinburgh resulted in the information that all the members of the Edinburgh ciub had become so thoroughly enraptured with republicanism that they had emigrated in a body to the United States, and that, in consequence, no republican club now existed in the ancient and beautiful metropolis of Scotland. The Dundonians have, however, during this last week started branch clubs in the neighboring towns of Perth and Arbroach, so that they, at least, are active enough. Republicanism, however, although probably one of the latent issues of the immediate luture, cannot be said at this moment to possess any very abiding hold on the sentiments of the Scottish nation.

Col., while the jailer siept. It was not much trouble to find him, as he had some assistance in getting out—from a mob, who hung him to the nearest tree. He was charged with murder.

A BROADSIDE FROM THE COMMUNISTS.

Their Reply to the Disclosures of the French Detective The Generals May, Pierre Boisset and Mr. Sanva Rise to Explain-"The Peaceful Ballot Our Only Weapon"-New York Already a Commune.

The startling disclosures of Louis de Plainval, the French detective, who has snadowed the leaders of the Communists by order of Superinyesterday, excited a great deal of indignation among the disciples of Rossel and Blanqui. A HERALD reporter was sent to learn the Communists' side of the story, and all those with terms of the most bitter denunciation about the police and "the traitor" who furnished the detective the published account. Among the most prominent leaders of the "Cercle Révolutionaire by the French detective were Elle and Gustave May, formerly generals of the French Commune. The reporter found General Elle May at his office, No. 33 John street, where a huge sign announces the Paris Commune are now following the peaceful and harmless occupation of "importers of pre-

General Elie May is a short, well built man, of strong physique, and with a face expressive of cultivation. He wears a full beard, of a pale brown, and his features are cast in a determined mould. He is rather a good-looking man.
General May was very indignant at the state

ments of the detective. "Here is one statement," he said, "which accuses me of having brought

during the French Commune. Now, see how absurd this statement is. The Versailles government, whenever it detected the slightest evidence of criminal conduct, sent the .Communists always to the galleys. They would have gladly sentenced us to the galleys if they could have found the flimsiest pretext for doing so: account for was missed, and we were condemued to impresonment for life in a fortress, which, you know, is merely the punishment for purely political offences. If they could possibly have impugned our honesty they certainly would have sent us to the galleys. No; we controlled millions and not five cents were missed when we left. Het people talk about my politics as much as they please, but I think my private character be-

REPORTER-I presume you are still one of the leaders of the Communists of this city? General May-Communists? Why, we are all Communists. Why all this absurd talk about the Communet What the Communists in Paris struggled for we have here in America. The people elect the municipal officers of every town-that's what the Commune is. Now, as to the detective's statements, we should certainly correct them but for the fact that no man of sense will believe them. Plainval is a secretary attached to the Detectives' Office, and probably

by these absurd statements. If this were France I should challenge this man to fight; but, unfortunately, there are no duels in America. I challenged a newspaper man and he laughed at me. However, I shall take other measures to obtain

Bowever, I shall take other measures to obtain satisfaction.

Here General May was called away, and he remarked that he must attend to his business affairs. "I get my money by business and not by politics," he said; "and as to our meetings, they are open to everybody who likes to attend them."

General Gustave May is still better looking than his brother. His complexion is darker and his mil, fine heard quite black. His manner was that of a man of education, and the conversation was carried on in French, English and German.

General Gustave May—I have nothing to say in answer to the accusations preferred against me by this detective. All my friends, all those who know me, can tell you who I am. I was a general in France, and such a matter I should have settled there with the pistol or the sword; but here, of course, it must be settled in quite a different manner.

REPORTER—Did you know that Superintendent

REPORTER—Did you know that Superintendent Matsell had set spies to watch you? General MAY—Why, we know what Mr. Matsell does better than he knows what we do. I know what the police do when there is

A MOVEMENT OF WORKINGMEN.

I was thrown into the most intimate relations with the Chief of Police of Paris daring the Commune, and know all the tricks of detectives. We have a secret police, too; and if they set their detectives to watch us we set our secret police to watch their detectives, and our police is much better, because it is not paid, as theirs is.

REPORTER—Do you know who the traitor is? General MAY—Yes, we know the man who furnished the information. I presume he wanted some money and agreed to betray us for a few dollars. We know him, and several times it was proposed to kick him out of our meetings, but I always said "No, let us wait." We shall get square with tois man yet, we shall take other and more effective measures. This man is in the service of a police which is you want. said "No, let us wait." We shall get square with this man yet, we shall take other and more effective measures. This man is in the service of a police which is venal, corrupt and wiling to do anything for money. The newspipers abuse me because I take the part I do. What interest have I to further? I am no citizen of the United States, and could not even become a public scavenger in the city. So you see that I merely endeavor to live up to my principles and not to gain anything personally by this communistic agitation.

General May was here interrupted by a business call, and the reporter left. The detective mentioned Moustral, a baker, at No. 17 Greene street, as one of the leaders of the Communists, but there is no No. I7 in this street and no Moustral could be found anywhere in the vicinity. Mr. Plerre Boisset, locksmith, at No. 109 Greene street, was found to be a veritable workingman, unusually intelligent and with an honest, open face.

Mr. Boisser—I assure you that the official investigation in Paris

and with an honest, open lace.

Mr. Boisser—I assure you that the official investigation in Paris

\*\*PERPECTLY VINDICATED THE MAY RECTIRES

and as to our organization, we have merely come together to protect our mutual interests and to obtain our citizens' papers. You would scarcely believe it, but out of 500 Frenchmen here there are not twenty-five who are citizens, and we want them all to become such, so that they shall vote for honest and Capable men. And for coing this we are called thieves, robbers, incendiaries. Now we protest against the statement furnished by this liniamous traitor and har. I tell you that we have no secret police. Why should we? The city of New York is a Commune. In France the Mayor, the Aldermen and the judges of a city are appointed by the government; but here they are elected by the people which constitute the Commune, and which is all we strove for in Paris. Ware not armed brigands. No; our only weapon is our peaceful vote.

\*Reporter—How about the atrocities of the Paris Commune?

Paris Commune?

Mr. Boussar (with emphatic gestures)—They were committed by the Versailles troops; it was they who set the Tulleries and Hotel de Ville on fire. At the notorious Cooper Institute meeting, where the division of property was advocated, all

where the division of property was advocated, all the speakers

were gremans and americans.

As to our drills, the detective was foolish enough to mistake a militia company, who drill at the Casino, for us. The rifles which he alludes to are theirs. (Mr. Boisset laughed heartily at this idea.) As to the military companies of 100 men each which we are supposed to have formed, what nonsense that is! We simply organize sections of 100 men each, so that they might take out their citizen's papers at the same time and not for purposes of pillage and plunder. Because our designs are pure, we are accused of crimes. Why should we set fire to New York? Are the working men of Chicago and Boston not in worse condition since the great fires in those cities?

Reporter—And in regard to the division of property?

REPORTER—And in regard to the division of property?

Mr. Boisset—Oh, what nonsense all that is! And suppose we should divide the money of all the capitalists among us, how much would each workingman receive? Perhaps \$1,000 at the utmost. Well, what could I do with \$1,000? No; it is work that we want, and not a division of all property. I have been a citizen of the Commune of New York for seventeen years, and, pray, 40 I look the thief and incendiary the police are glad to represent every Communist?

THE CAPITALISTS ARE BUT WORKMEN.

incendiary the police are glad to represent every Communist?

THE CAPITALISTS ARE BUT WORKMEN.

I work with my tools, the millionnaire with his greenbacks. If I engage some workmen and pay them \$2 a day and realize \$1 profit from their labor, I am also a "capitalist!" Am I, therefore, an enemy of the workingman ? I tell you we only wantour rights; we want that the police shall not club us when we assemble peaceably. Even Recorder Hackett condemned the action of the police. If we had stolen or robbed there they might have had cause to arrest us, but not when we assembled quietly to state our grievances. Had we any weapons on our persons ? No; all the arms I had were my pocket handkerchief and my pipe. And as to the cartridges and cannons of our organization I can tell you this:—our cartridges shall be our votes, and the polis our cannons. (And Mr. Boisset burst into a fit of laughter.)

Mr. Sauva, tailor, at No. 133 Bleecker street, another leader, said the workingmen did not want anything but work. The communists did not concern themselves ever with the division of property, which was merely a matter of conscience. If the detective was a Louis de Piainvai he was a nobleman, who could know nothing of workingmen and ought to leave them alone. The report was evidently made to justify the action of the police in clubbing beaceful workingmen. All they

had done was to unite, so as to prevent the

as they were doing now. That was all. As to their drils the detective must have confounded them with a milita company who drilled regularly at the Gasino.

Chief Matsell was also called upon, and said he attached credence to most of the statements of the detective, but that there was not the least cause for alarm on account of these terrible communists.

WORKINGMEN'S AGITATION.

Measures Adopted to Obtain Satisfaction for the Tompkins Square Clubbingcited by the Police Commissioners-The Freethinkers' Union. Under the auspices of the Freethinkers' Union a meeting of trades union delegations was held at

the Turn Hall last evening for the purpose of taking further action to call the police au-thorities to account for "inciting a riot" on Tompkins square on the 13th of January, when the workingmen's demonstration was contemplated, and for their subsequent interference with the intended freethinkers' mass meeting at the New York Assembly Rooms. Conrad Kuhn was calle upon to preside, who, in stating the object of the movement, said that the intention is to have the Police anthorities indicted by the Grand Jury and impeached for malefeasance in office by the Legislature, and that a delegation would proceed to Albany in reference to this mat-ter. Resolutions were presented by a com-mittee previously appointed for that purpose. which were endorsed. They are in substance as follows:—That this Convention shall take steps to insure the indictment of the Police Commissioners for "inciting a riot" on the 13th of January last; that the sworn depositions of the victims be taken that their complaints may be laid before the Legislature; further, that charges against the Police Commissioners shall be prepared and be presented to the Mayor, calling for their removal that the amdavits of the victims of "police brutality" be laid before the Legislature, with an appeal ity" be taid before the Legislature, with an appeal for redress; also that an address on the subject be issued to the public, setting forth the importance of this matter to the welfare of the community and the people at large.

Additional resolutions were presented declaring that a committee be appointed to address letters of inquiry to each member of the Boards of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, to each member of the Legislature from this city and to each member of Congress from this city: that these letters be address from this city: that these letters be address from this city: that these letters be address.

of inquiry to each member of the Boards of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, to each member of the Legislature from this city and to each member of Congress from this city; that these letters be addressed in the name of the late Cooper Institute mass meeting, calling for a reply to the same, so that their position on the subject may be understood when they again ask for the vote of the working classes. They are to be called upon to state whether they approve and sustain the various steps of the Police Commissioners in January last against the workingmen in Tompkins square, causing them to be assailed with citos, "without warning," and their subsequent attempts to interfere with the freedom of speech. Furthermore, if they do not approve of these things, then why did not they raise their vote against the outrage? They are to be requested to answer these questions briefly in writing, and their omission te do so shall be deemed as evidence that they approve of the action of the police on the occasion referred to. Further, that the result of this action and the replies received to these inquiries shall be presented at another mass meeting, to be called for that purpose, These resolutions were passed in substance as above by a unanimous vote.

A committee appointed at a previous meeting for that purpose, These resolutions were passed in substance as above by a unanimous vote.

A committee appointed at a previous meeting for that purpose presented a drait of an address to the public on the subject, which was adopted, declaring that the first time in the history of this city it has occurred that public officers, sworn to uphold the law, have trampled upon the law and the privileges of the people. A riot occurred in Tompkins square on the 13th of January, but the persons who engaged in the riot were the Police Commissioners. The justification of these acts, the address goes on, is a false pretence; they were acts of cruel peridity on the part of unworthy servants of the people. A committee composed of Messrs. Gundbech, C

THE CONGRESSIONAL CHESSBOARD.

The Financial Problems Before Congress, and the Various Parties, Schemes and Theories on Sanking and Cur-rency-The Want of a Party Leader. WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1874.

Upon the various financial problems awaiting the solution of Congress numerous bills, resolutions and propositions have been introduced in each house, looking to the relief of the country, the relief of the Treasury, an elastic currency and to specie payments. Among these numerous schemes there are bills providing for free banking and the absorption of the greenbacks in the redemption of the national bank circulation, for the gradual withdrawal of the national bank notes and the substitution of a bility of greenbacks into five per cent bonds; for a 3.65 per cent bond as a basis for the redemption of the national currency; for a gradual reduction of the national bank circulation to \$350,000,000, and the laying of additional taxes to raise a gold fund in the Treasury for specie resumption; to pursue the policy of masterly inactivity and let our financial and business affairs regulate themselves; to issue \$46,000,000 additional bank currency and various other sums up to \$150,000,000 ing; a bill to transfer to the West, and South from the East \$25,000,000 of the existing bank currency, and so on to the end of the catalogue.

increase; various schemes for limited free banking; a bill to transfer to the West and South from the East \$25,000,000 of the existing bank currency, and so on to the end of the catalogue.

These diverse schemes indicate the Diversity of Political Contraction and resumption, and the difficulties of reaching any comprehensive compromise. Here we, are. Sherman, Senate Chairman on Finance, pleads the binding obligation of a return to specie payments as soon as practicable. He would hesitate in advocating immediate contraction, but he is opposed to another dollar of innation. He would hold Congress to its pleage of specie payments. Morton argues the paramount necessity and duty of an immediate increase of the national bank currency for the relief of the West and South from their present heavy embarrassments. Mr. Chandler contends that this hue and cry for "more wild cat and red dog currency. The impetuous Logan says that it is the people

Who Call. For More Currency. The impetuous Logan says that it is the people

Who Call. For More Currency. The impetuous Logan says that it be ank monopolists who are opposed to any disturbance of their exclusive privileges. Cameron, a successful banker, in support of his amendment for unlimited free banking, argues that it offers a smooth and inviling road to specie payments, while Freinghuysen is quite as strongly convinced that this is the downhill road to the wildest speculation and inflation and to a general collapse and universal bankruptcy and repudiation. Philally, the man who, perhaps more than any other Senator, is regarded as an authority in the chamber on financial matters, Mr. Boutwell, late Secretary of the Treasury, sees danger in contraction and peril in expansion: and would, therefore, drift a little longer till the fog lifts and we can see exactly where we are.

These are required to make up our estimates of the probable settlement of the earn of the Senaton. It will not be unlimited free banking—in which we are required to make up our estimates of the probable se

Coroner Croker was yesterday called to No. 443 Coroner Croker was yesterday called to No. 443

Eight avenue to hold an inquest on the body of Mr. John D. Schumann, a German, fifty years of age, who died in the Ninety-minth street Reception Hospital. On Monday evening last Mr. Schumann was driving a spirited horse, and, on turning the corner of Seventh avenue and 145th street, was thrown from the wagon, striking upon his head, and, in the opinion of House Surgeon Deigado, received concussion of the brain, which caused death.

## CUBA.

General Bascone's Defeat by the Insurrectionary Forces.

"The Severest Action Since the Outbreak of the Revolution."

EIGHT THOUSAND MEN ENGAGED.

The Patriots on the Alert Against the Spanish Strategy.

BURRIEL GONE ABROAD.

HAVANA, Feb. 19, 1874. The air has recently been thick with the rumers of a severe reverse to the Spanish forces com manded by Brigadier Bascones. The official reports, as yet very meagre, are of the usual noncommittal character, but the following is the first of them published in the Havana journals. The action is qualified by the Diario to have been one of the "severest since the outbreak of the revolution." In confirmation of this there are other versions in circulation, obtained from Cuban sources, in regard to this engagement, which set down the less to the Spaniards as very severe and at differ. ent figures ranging from 300 to 600, with the loss of their artillery. But as the latter versions have as yet no authenticity the real truth of the matter must be patiently awaited for. All such affairs have exaggeration in their reports. The Cubans and their sympathizers are prone to make out the Spanish loss as always very high, while the Spaniards, even in their official accounts, scorn the idea of a battle or action in any way whatever disastrous to them, and always have a phrase that the loss of the "rebs" must be "calculated" very great-probably only because it is very slight, and, as can be noted in the engage ment I am about to report, they (the Spaniards) saw neither dead nor wounded, took no prisoners nor captured any of the "pomp and circumstance

A steamer arrived yesterday from Nucvitas, and your correspondent made diligent inquiries among several of the passengers from Puerto Principe, but the result was not satisfactory, as the only infor-mation given consisted in the statement that no further details of the affair had reached Puerte Principe up to the time the train left for Nuevitas,

THE ENGAGEMENT WAS VERY SEVERE and the loss of the Spaniards about 300, between killed and wounded.

SPANISH STRATEGY AND THE PATRIOT QUI VIVE. The report ailuded to states that General Portilla, being privately informed of the place where the gross of the Cuban forces, under the command of the Marquis of Santa Lucia, had established their camp, near the cattle farm Narango, ordered out the column of Brigadier Bascones to attack them. Bascones obeyed with his column, amount ing to about 3,000 strong, and in a short time ing to about 3,000 strong, and in a short time found the insurgents, who were about 5,000 in number and well intreneued, and occupying good and advantageous positions. One letter from Puerto Principe, given in the Diario, describing the action says it lasted seven hours, and in all that time the Spanish forces lost not an ince of ground, but, from the simple soldier to General Bascones, each rivalled the other in coolness and bravery.

Another letter on the same subject, published in the Foz de Cubb. says as follows:—

Another letter on the same subject, published as the Voz de Cuba, says as follows:—
Our infantry operated as commanded by the art of war, and our four pieces of artillery—inountain howitzers—made excellent play, using up the half of their amminition, and, notwithstanding the desperate edorts of the insurgents to obtain them, with the cry. "The guns shall be ours, aithough it cost 500 men," they were repeatedly repulsed, and then the enemy, seeing that our proces yielded not an inch and that by our steel, muskery and artillery their ranks were becoming fearfully thinned, put an end to the battle by taking flight and setting fire to the guinea grass of the field, a manceuvre which often prevents us from following them in pursuit, or of investigating their losses. Their losses, taking into account our own, the severity of the combat and the aid of the artillery, must have been more numerous than ever. The command of the solion was well directed, and the proof is that, although we had obtilled and 150 wounded, Brigadier assections was a prisoner nor even a horse, nor we from them might be added.

THE LESSON AND ITS MORAL.

the added.

The account stops here, saying it has no further details of this affair, perhaps one of the most important since the beginning of the insurrection. What must elicit much comment is the statement made in this meagre report given by the Spaniards, that the insurgents had "a,000" combatants on the field, which calls for particular attention, inasmuch as it comes in direct contradiction with the almost daily statements of the Spaniarh organs and official proclamations, asserting that "the insurrection is kept up by a number of small bands of bandits." Thus the work goes on, reports coming in of very "severe" engageon, reports coming in of very "severe" wounded, and with the declared intention of the government forces now and again to make short work of the remainder of those in arms agains

work of the remainder of those in arms against Spanish integrity.

BURRIEL AT SEA.

The last Spanish mail steamer took away from this island Brigadier Juan N. Burriel, who has made a name for himself in the history of this unhappy insurrection, which will be found on the page of the brutal and bloody massacre of the expeditionists of the Virginius.

The same steamer took away—under what is called here partida de registro, or ordered to report for a court of inquiry—the well known Don José Severo Fernandez Mora, who was at the head of the military hospital, the first signer and reported drafter of that celebrated manifesto of the republican party of Cuba, and a freemason of the highest degree. Like other stanch republicans, he was no dount obnuzious to the oligarchy of Cuba, and for this reason only has he been sent to Spain.

CARNIVAL,

Spain.

CARNIVAL,
notwithstanding the present circumstances of the
island, which do not promise much improvement
for the better, was celebrated in the usual manner, but with much less animation than was noticeable in former years. The Pasco was again crowded
with double lines of carriages, and the sides of the
Pasco, the parks and public squares thronged with
orderly crowds of sight-seers. Balls were given
at the Tacon Theatre and other places; but it could
be noticed that the gayety of this year's carnival
was forced, and that almost all the male portion of
the crowd had their minds occupied with the "coming draft."

## HENRI ROCHEFORT.

The French Communist Leader at His Home in New Caledonia-Personal Conduct, Companions and Discipline.

SYDNEY, Jan. 17, 1874. Henri Rochefort, the French journalist, once a Communist idol, now expatriated from gay Paris and bereft of his popularity, has been added to the

denizens of New Caledonia.

He arrived there on the 8th ult., per steam transport Virginie, after a tedious voyage, which necessitated cailing at the Canary Islands and St. Catherines (Brazil) for provisions. To a man of his mercurial temperament close confinement in a convict ship for 120 days must have been the acme convict ship for 120 days must have been the acme of punishment. The officers dared not show him any lenity, nor associate with him, and the canadile, his compagnons de coyage, jeered at him as one many degrees more infamous than him as one many degrees more infamous than themselves. What wonder that a more thoroughly broken spirited convict never landed at Noumea. He has not yet been permanently located, but it is expected that he will be retained at the chef tieu until some change in Fronca affairs gives the uniortunate his freedom.

Official statistics show that on December 1 New Caledonia contained 3,343 prisoners, of whom 756 Caledonia contained 3,343 prisoners, of whom 756 were convicts and 2,677 Communist exiles. The latter are all located at lie du Pines, except 300 ticket-of-leave men employed in various capacities on the main island.

M. Roonefort's first experience of convict life discipline was the receiving of a sentence of eight days selitary imprisonment for some triting violation of the police rules.

## THE M'NAMARA MURDER

A Jury Empanelled. Coroner Woltman has summoned the gentlemen

whose names are subjoined to act as jurors in the case of Michael McNamara, alleged to have been murdered at his residence, 530 West Twenty-ninth street, by being shot by Detective Leahy :- William o. Bates, 1,138 Broadway; William Bergman, 1,154
Broadway; H. B. Melville, 1,191 Broadway; E. C.
Leseur, 1,209 Broadway; M. A. Coleman, 1,252
Broadway; M. H. Danziger, 1,238 Broadway; Mr.
Snow, 1,206 Broadway; T. Burke, 1,172 Broadway;
C. Chamberlain, 1,146 Broadway; L. D. Eaton,
1,146 Broadway; C. Randmerz, 1,140 Broadway;
T. J. Huntman, No. 6 St. Mark's place. Inquest to be
held at the Coroner's office, No. 40 East Houston
street, Saturday, 28th inst., at eleven A. M., by
Coroner Woltman.